Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (Original) A method for providing private air travel to a customer, the method comprising:

establishing a pool of aircraft service providers;

obtaining aircraft service requests from a plurality of customers, each aircraft service request containing a set of customer-specified parameters;

selecting from the pool of aircraft service providers one or more aircraft that conform to each set of customer-specified parameters; and

matching aircraft to the aircraft service requests in accordance with the customer-specified parameters in a manner that minimizes the occurrence of passenger-less flights.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising receiving confirmation from an aircraft service carrier of the availability of aircraft for the aircraft service request.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the aircraft service requests are obtained through a web page.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising providing a travel card to

one or more of the customers wherein the travel card represents pre-purchased amount of private aircraft service.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the travel card provides access to a private air travel contractor.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising responding to an aircraft Service request within a guaranteed time interval.

7. (Withdrawn) A travel card for providing private air travel to a customer, the travel card comprising a first face and a second face, the first face including thereon an identification number for identifying a customer authorized to use the travel card and a designation representing a pre-purchased allotment of private aircraft service.

8. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 7, wherein the first face or the second face includes thereon a designation representing a pre-determined number of private aircraft service flight upgrades that are redeemable at the option of the customer.

9. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 7, wherein the first face or the second face includes thereon a magnetic strip that enables the card to be read by a magnetic strip reader.

10. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 7, further comprising a processor and a memory disposed between the first face and the second face.

11. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 10, wherein the memory retains data pertinent to the customer's private aircraft service preferences.

12. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 10, wherein the memory retains data pertinent to the customer's medical preferences.

13. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 10, wherein the memory retains data

pertinent to the customer's medical conditions.

14. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 11, wherein the data includes a record of the customer's entertainment preferences.

15. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 11, wherein the data includes a record of the customer's dining preferences.

16. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 10, wherein the memory retains data pertinent to the customer's post-flight travel preferences.

17. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 10, wherein the memory retains data pertinent to the customer's pre-flight travel preferences.

18. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 10, wherein the processor includes program
code for establishing a communication link to a computer network when the program code is read by a computer.

19. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 18, wherein the network is the Internet.

20. (Withdrawn) A travel card according to claim 18, wherein the network provides a communication link to a private air travel contractor.

21. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface for providing private air travel to a customer, the graphical user interface comprising:

a request module, the request module providing a request interface containing fields for the customer to enter private aircraft travel request information;

a selection module, the selection module providing a selection interface for displaying

to the customer information regarding availability of aircraft satisfying the customer's travel requests information and permitting the customer to select an aircraft; and

a payment module, the payment module providing a payment interface containing fields for the customer to enter private aircraft travel payment information.

22. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 21, further comprising:

a tracking module, the tracking module providing a tracking interface for displaying information regarding a flight status to the customer.

23. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 21, further comprising:

an account module, the account module providing an account interface for displaying information relevant to the private air travel customer's personal account.

24. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 21, wherein the payment interface contains a field for entering a payment method.

25. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 21, wherein the payment interface contains a field for entering a credit card number.

26. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 21, wherein the payment interface contains a field for entering a travel card number.

27. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 21, wherein the payment interface contains a field for entering a checking account number and a field for entering a check number.

28. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 23, wherein the account interface displays an account balance.

29. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 23, wherein the account interface displays an itemization of account activity.

30. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 21, wherein the selection interface displays a selection of aircraft.

31. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 21, wherein the selection interface displays a selection of flight times.

32. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 21, wherein the graphical user interface is accessed through a web page.

33. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface for providing private air travel to a plurality of customer, the graphical user interface comprising:

a search module, the search module providing an interface whereby a user may locate, in substantially real time, an aircraft that satisfies travel requirements of each customer; and

a tracking module, the tracking module providing an interface whereby the user may track the flight progress of one or more aircraft that may satisfy travel requirements of each customer.

34. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking module displays information related to an aircraft's registration number.

35. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking module displays information regarding an aircraft's speed.

36. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking module displays information regarding an aircraft's make and model.

37. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking module displays information regarding an aircraft's altitude.

38. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking interface displays information regarding an aircraft's position.

39. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking interface displays information regarding an aircraft's destination.

40. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking interface displays information regarding an aircraft's estimated time of arrival.

41. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking interface displays information regarding an aircraft's origin.

42. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking interface displays a location of at least one airport at which the aircraft may land.

43. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, further comprising:

a flight entry module, the flight entry module providing an interface containing fields whereby the user may create a flight for each customer, the flight entry module generating an interface for displaying a calender of updated flights in accordance with the entry of each flight created.

44. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, further comprising:

a flight information module, the flight information module providing an interface for

displaying to the user information regarding aircraft availability.

45. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, further comprising:

a payment module, the payment module providing a payment interface containing fields whereby the user may enter customer payment information.

46. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, further comprising:

a report module, the report module providing an interface whereby a user may generate a flight report.

47. (Withdrawn) A graphical user interface according to claim 33, wherein the tracking module provides an interface wherein a user may create a watch list for tracking one or more aircraft.

48. (Original) A system for providing private air travel to a customer, the system comprising:

means for communicating with a plurality of aircraft service providers, the aircraft service providers supplying a plurality of aircraft types from a plurality of locations; and

means for communicating with a plurality of customers, each of the customers providing an itinerary for private air travel, such that at least one aircraft from the plurality of aircraft service providers is matched to the itinerary in a manner that minimizes the occurrence of passenger-less flights.

49. (Original) A system according to claim 48, further comprising means for communicating with a database, the database providing, under corresponding program control:

data pertinent to active flights;

data pertinent to proposed flights;

data pertinent to landed flights;

data pertinent to one-way flights; and

data pertinent to transient flights.

50. (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the database further provides:

data pertinent to aircraft types;

data pertinent to aircraft safety;

51. (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the database further provides:

data pertinent to aircraft service providers; and

data pertinent to aircraft service provider safety.

52. (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the database further provides:

data pertinent to pilot safety histories;

data pertinent to pilot training histories.

53. (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the database further provides

data pertinent to travel service providers.

54. (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the database further provides

data pertinent to each of the customers.

55. (Original) A system according to claim 48, further comprising means for communicating with at least one satellite dish, the satellite dish providing data to the database.

56. (Original) A system according to claim 48, further comprising means for communicating with a network, the network providing data to the database.

57. (Original) A system according to claim 48, wherein the means for communicating with the plurality of customers includes means for communicating with one or more travel cards, each travel card having a processor and a memory.

58. (Original) A system according to claim 57, wherein each travel card provides access to a plurality of car rental services.

59. (Original) A system according to claim 57, wherein each travel card provides access to a plurality of innkeepers.

60. (Withdrawn) A computer program product for providing a database for providing private air travel to a customer, the computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer code thereon, the computer code comprising:

 program code for receiving data regarding aircraft provided by at least one satellite dish and at least one computer network; and

 program code for storing the data provided by the satellite dish and the computer network.

61. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 60, further comprising:

 program code for establishing communication with a plurality of aircraft service providers and receiving data from the aircraft service providers; and

 program code for establishing communication with a plurality of customers and receiving data from each of the customers such that data received from each customer may be compared to data received from the aircraft service providers, the satellite dish and the network to provide a flight to each customer.

62. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 60, further comprising program code for comparing the data stored in the database with the data received from the satellite dish, the computer network, the aircraft service providers and the customers in order to update the database.

63. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 60, further comprising program code for providing an graphical user interface by which a user may provide private air travel to each customer, the interface providing an electronic link to:

a module for recording information corresponding to each customer's flight preferences;

a module for enabling the user to search for an aircraft satisfying the customer's flight preferences; and

a module for enabling the user to search for an airport satisfying each customer's flight preferences.

64. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 63, wherein the interface further provides an electronic link to a module for enabling the user to record each customer's catering preferences.

65. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 63, wherein the interface further provides an electronic link to:

a module for accessing and editing each customer's records;

a module for accessing and editing a plurality of aircraft service provider's records, wherein each aircraft service provider provides one or more aircraft; and

a module for accessing and editing aircraft records.

66. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 63, wherein the interface further provides and electronic link to a module that provides a geographical view of a location of an aircraft.

67. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 63, wherein the interface further provides an electronic link to a module that provides a geographical view of a location of an airport.

68. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 63, further comprising program code for tracking the course of an aircraft over time.

69. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 63, further comprising program code for providing a graphical user interface by which a user may input criteria corresponding to a tracking request.

70. (Withdrawn) A computer program product according to claim 63, further comprising program code for providing a graphical user interface by which each customer may enter a private air travel request.

71. (Original) A method for providing private air travel to a plurality of customers, the method comprising:

receiving data relevant to a plurality of aircraft owned by a plurality of aircraft service providers, via a first communication link;

receiving data relevant to a plurality of customer service requests via a second communication link;

saving the data received from the first and second communication links to a storage medium;

analyzing the data saved to match at least one aircraft to each customer service request in a manner that minimizes the occurrence of passenger-less flights.

72. (Original) A method according to claim 71, wherein the data relevant to the plurality of aircraft is received substantially in real time.

73. (Original) A method according to claim 71, wherein the data relevant to the plurality of aircraft is received from a satellite dish.

74. (Original) A method according to claim 71, wherein the data relevant to the plurality of aircraft is received from a computer network.

75. (Original) A method according to claim 71, wherein the storage medium is a database that, under corresponding program control, analyzes the data saved to match at least one aircraft to each customer service request in a manner that minimizes the occurrence of passenger-less flights.

76. (Withdrawn) A method for providing travel services including private air travel to a plurality of customers, the method comprising:

 providing a pre-purchased allotment of private air travel to one or more of the customers;

 receiving a travel service request from each customer, the travel service request including customer-specified flight parameters;

 providing an aircraft that satisfies the customer-specified flight parameters for each customer's travel service; and

 debiting the value of the travel service from the pre-purchased allotment of private air travel for each customer that is provided with the pre-purchased allotment.

77. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 76, wherein providing a pre-purchased allotment of private air travel includes providing a travel card to a customer, the travel

card having a first face and a second face, wherein the first or second face includes thereon a designation indicating the pre-purchased allotment of private air travel.

78. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 76, wherein providing a pre-purchased allotment of private air travel includes providing a pre-determined number of flight upgrades that are redeemable at the option of the customer.

79. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 76, wherein providing a pre-purchased allotment of private air travel includes providing a pre-determined number of frequent flyer upgrades that are redeemable at the option of the customer.

80.(Withdrawn) A method according to claim 76, wherein providing a pre-purchased allotment of private air travel includes providing a dedicated customer service representative.

81. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 77, wherein the first or second face of the travel card includes thereon a designation indicating a pre-determined number of flight upgrades that are redeemable at the option of the customer.

82. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 77, where the first or second face of the travel card includes thereon a designation indicating a pre-determined number of frequent flyer upgrades that are redeemable at the option of the customer.

83. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 77, wherein the first of second face of the travel card includes thereon a designation indicating identification of a dedicated customer service representative.